

Current Status of Funding for Peanut Collaborative Research Support Program

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The planning stages and the formative aspects of the Peanut Collaborative Research Support Program (Peanut CRSP) were done in 1980 and 1981 by Drs C.R. Jackson and D.G. Cummins. The purpose of the U.S. institution was to provide a long-term collaborative research program to relieve constraints that would enable an increase in production and utilization of groundnuts in the developing countries. A total of 11 projects was approved. Funding for five of these projects started in 1982, and the remaining six started in 1983. The projects cover various aspects such as breeding, food science, aflatoxins, *Rhizobium*, entomology, and pathology, which includes one project on virology. Initial funding was for 5 years and centered in three world areas: Asia (Thailand and the Philippines), semi-arid Africa (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Sudan), and the Caribbean (headquarters in Trinidad).

Because of monetary constraints, budgets were reduced and the Peanut CRSP projects

were funded fully for only 4 of the 5 years. In January 1987, an additional 12.5% reduction was imposed on all projects for the remaining months of the initial 5-year project. Thus an effective 30% reduction has been experienced by all Peanut CRSP budgets. An additional 3-year extension, beginning 1 July 1987, has been approved. Funding for the extension period will be at the reduced yearly rate.

Since reduced funds are restricting most projects, the Technical Committee and Board of Directors for the Peanut CRSP are evaluating each project. The Peanut CRSP virus project is no exception. Recently, Thailand and the Philippines have requested support for their groundnut virus programs. I suspect the managing groups are questioning a phase down on support for groundnut rosette with increased support in Southeast Asia. Therefore, continued support for groundnut rosette research is unclear but decisions will be made soon.

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